FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 14, 2019 Contact: Brian Rothgery, 414-278-4230

Alexander Secures Funding for Noyes Pool in 2020 Budget, Opposes Tax Increase

MILWAUKEE –Supervisor Deanna Alexander secured funding for a lighted sign for Noyes Pool as part of the 2020 Milwaukee County budget Tuesday and voted against the largest property tax increase in recent memory used to finance the \$1.18 billion package.

"I commend my colleagues on the Finance and Audit Committee for the tremendous effort they put into shaping and finalizing the 2020 Milwaukee County budget, and I thank my colleagues for supporting a small project to promote Noyes Pool. Many people aren't even aware that Noyes Pool is open to the public, but with the new signage funded by my amendment I believe we will see greater use of the pool and more revenue to help maintain the facility. Sadly, this budget is full of wasteful spending, fueled by the largest tax increase in a decade, and I cannot support it," said Alexander.

While advocating for funding for a lighted Noyes Pool sign on Good Hope Rd., Supervisor Alexander drew her colleagues' attention to the projected \$142,107 cost to plan and design <u>upgrades</u> to the Dretzka Golf Clubhouse parking lot in her district, as well as the \$1,084,421 construction costs, as an example of the wasteful spending included in the 2020 budget.

"I was stunned to learn that the county has budgeted \$142,000 to design a parking lot upgrade and more than a million dollars to simply repave that parking lot using traditional materials. This is a clear example of wasteful spending and shows that this county board has turned a blind eye to overbidding, which too many people now consider the normal way of doing business. How many other county projects in this budget are based on inflated costs and wasteful spending?" asked Alexander.

The Board of Supervisors adopted (11-7) Alexander's <u>amendment</u>, which shifts \$35,000 from the Dretzka parking lot project to a new capital project for a Noyes Pool lighted sign.

Supervisor Alexander was one of four supervisors who voted against the 2020 property tax increase of more than \$6.7 million. Milwaukee County's property tax levy has increased by more than \$50 million since 2008, to just over \$301 million.